**Building a Clean Heart
Six woes to the Religious Leaders**
dinner with a Pharisee
Luke 11
*When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited him to eat with him; so he went in and reclined at the table. But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal. Luke 11:37-38 Then the Lord said to him, “Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.” Luke 11:39-41*
Jewish Religious leaders
High Priests
Captain of the Temple Guard
Rabbis
Pharisees - resurrection, OT, traditions
Sadducees - only books of Moses, no resurrection
Essenes
Sanhedrin

Did Jesus come just to make us act better

Problem is not on the outside.  Problem is on the inside
coffee stain in the inside of the cup.
Is your heart in it.  His heart was just not in it.  HOPE
Pharisees are all show.  Pharisees love money (lk 16:14) love attention
Stress and pressure reveal the heart.
Adversity does not build character, it reveals it.

GOD KNOWS OUR HEART
*"You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and wickedness! Luke 11:39*

Pharisees pretended to be better than they really were.
Religious people pretend often
Prostitutes and tax collectors, know they are bad

Big Idea: A Changed life begins with a changed heart

*Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23***How do have a clean heart?**

**1. Love who and what God Loves**fixated on big things not little things. PRIORITIES
*“What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.” Luke 11:42*

William Hendrickson says this, “Rigid insistence on trivial matters is very often a cover for inner sin.”

God loves all people, hard, frustrating people
Woe…."alas"
We are so self absorb, we don’t care about others
justice and love
The good Samaritan.  Samaritan Purse
Good Samaritan law California Health and Safety Code Section 1799.102 says, “No person who in good faith, and not for compensation, renders emergency medical or nonmedical care at the scene of an emergency shall be liable for any civil damages resulting from any act or omission.”

Don't get in your Christian bubble

**2. Put Character over Reputation
POSITION
Be more concerned about the heart than outward appearances**
**Live for the applause of God***“What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you love to sit in the seats of honor in the synagogues and receive respectful greetings as you walk in the marketplaces.” Luke 11:43*Don't live for human recognition
Hall of Fame, Shame or Hall of Faith (Hebrews 11)

Most important seat.  Like Laker games
Peacock defense feathers
We should reflect what Jesus has done for and through us

**3. Influence People to be Better
POLUTION***“For you are like hidden graves in a field. People walk over them without knowing the corruption they are stepping on.” Luke 11:44*Someones prayer, "Lord, help me not to add to anybody's problems."

Can't walk on grave.  If you do, no temple for a week.
Marked with whitewash.  Sometimes people would accidently step on a grave.

Pharisee corrupt others because of their own hypocrisy

“Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is
hypocrisy.” Luke 12:1b

Then to the scribes (religious lawyers and other leaders)
"you've insulted us, too, in what you said." Luke 11:45

**4. Make it Easy to Believe**
*you crush people with unbearable religious demands…" Luke 11:46
For my yoke is****easy****to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”Matthew 11:30*
*“And so my judgment is that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. Acts 15:19* **Don't crush people with your own standard of holiness.**

*His host was amazed to see that he sat down to eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony required by Jewish custom. Luke 11:38*

“Yes,” said Jesus, “what sorrow also awaits you experts in religious law! For you crush people with unbearable religious demands, and you never lift a finger to ease the burden. Luke 11:46

empty, false religion

Romans Catholics: the Bible must be supplemented by a great body of tradition consisting of 14 or 15 apocryphal books or, the writings of the Greek and Latin church fathers, and a huge collection of church council pronouncements and papal decrees as of equal value and authority – a veritable library in itself.
Hundi - moksha reincarnation
Buddist - nirvanaTHE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

Right understanding,

Right thought ,Right speech, Right action, Right livelihood, ) Right effort, Right mindfulness, Right concentration

have you ever looked at another Christian and judged that Christian because that Christian didn't do something that the Bible doesn't command that Christian to do, but that you think that Christian ought to do?   cards, music,

Ceremonial handwashing
There are several times where Jewish law requires hand washing, including:

* [after sleeping or napping](http://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/260663/jewish/The-Laws-Upon-Awakening-in-the-Morning.htm)
* after going to the bathroom
* after leaving a cemetery
* before a meal, if bread is involved
* after a meal, if the "salt of Sodom" was use
* Make sure your hands are clean. This seems counterproductive, but remember that *netilyat yadayim*(hand washing) is not about cleanliness, but about ritual.
* Fill a [washing cup](http://www.worldofjudaica.com/judaica/washing-cups) with enough water for both of your hands. If you are left handed, begin with your left hand. If you are right handed, start with your right hand.
* Pour the water twice on your dominant hand and then twice on your other hand. Some pour three times, including [Chabad Lubavitchers](http://www.chabad.org/). Make sure the water covers your entire hand up to the wrist with each pour and separate your fingers so the water touches the whole of your hand.
* After washing, grab a towel and as you dry your hands recite the*bracha*(blessing): *Baruch atah Adonai, Elohenu Melech Ha'Olam, asher kideshanu b'mitzvotav, vetzivanu al netilat yadayim*. This blessing means, in English, Blessed are you Lord, our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us regarding the washing of the hands.

**5. Take clear positions on tough issues
Call evil evil, and good good.**

**Don't ignore and reject the accumulated message***For you build monuments for the prophets your own ancestors killed long ago. Luke 11:47*
Abel was killed by Cain - sacrifice of blood needed
Zechariah killed, worship God
A-Z guilt

Queen of Sheba came to hear Solomon 11:31
Jonah and Niveveh 11:32

How can God's accumulated wrath fall on one generation?”  It does.  The FLOOD
You're gonna pay - Romans invasion AD 66
An authentic follower of Jesus obeys the teachings of Jesus, even when they don’t necessarily like those teachings because it calls their lifestyle into question.

**6. Be a key to Spiritual understand
knowledge and don’t' hindered others from it.***For you remove the key to knowledge from the people. You don’t enter the Kingdom yourselves, and you prevent others from entering.” Luke 11:52*

*It would be better to be thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around your neck than to cause one of these little ones to fall into sin.****3****So watch yourselves! Luke 17:2-3*

Religious leaders had no power, no life. no spiritual truth.
Study the bible, there is ONE TRUTH not multiple
you don't want to have a Bible study that's just a pooling of ignorance.

**Bottom Line:**We do not change by simply avoiding something.

We change by becoming something.

*Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6*

Mission trips, doing something for others
Japan, tsunami
We do it for others.